

ALLIES REFUSE TO TREAT WITH GERMANY

No Peace Possible Without Full Reparation—Germany's Peace Offer Called Attempt to "Justify New Crimes"

Paris, Dec. 30.

The following is the text of the collective note of the entente allies, rejecting Germany's peace proposals, which was handed by Premier Briand to William G. Sharp, the American Ambassador, today:

"The allied Governments of Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, Portugal, Rumania, Russia and Serbia, united for the defense of the liberty of their peoples and faithful to engagements taken not to lay down their arms separately, have resolved to reply collectively to the pretended proposition of peace which was addressed to them on behalf of the enemy Governments through intermediary of the United States, Spain, Switzerland and Holland. Before making any reply, the allied Powers desire particularly to protest against the two essential assertions of the note of the enemy Powers that pretend to throw upon the allies responsibility for the war and proclaim the victory of the Central Powers.

"The allied Governments cannot admit an affirmation doubly inexact and which suffices to render sterile all tentative negotiations. The allied nations have sustained for 30 months a war they did everything to avoid. They have shown by their acts their attachment to peace. That attachment is as strong today as it was in 1914. But it is not upon the word of Germany, after the violation of its engagements, that the peace broken by her may be based.

"Mere Suggestion Not An Offer of Peace."

"A mere suggestion, without a statement of terms, that negotiations should be opened, is not an offer of peace. The putting forward by the Imperial Government of a sham proposal lacking all substance and precision would appear to be less an offer of peace than a war maneuver. It is founded on calculated misrepresentation of the character of the struggle in the past, and the present and the future.

"As for the past, the German note takes no account of the facts, dates and figures which establish that the war was desired, provoked and declared by Germany and Austria-Hungary.

"At the Hague conference it was a German delegate who refused all proposals for disarmament. In July, 1914, it was Austria-Hungary, who, after having addressed to Serbia an unprecedented ultimatum, declared war upon her in spite of the satisfaction which had at once been accorded. The central Empires then rejected all attempts made by the entente to bring about a pacific solution of a purely local conflict. Great Britain suggested a conference; France proposed an international commission; the Emperor of Russia asked the German Emperor to go to arbitration and Russia and Austria-Hungary came to an understanding on the eve of the conflict. But to all these efforts Germany gave neither answer nor effect.

"Belgium was invaded by an empire which had guaranteed her neutrality and which had the assurance to proclaim that treaties were 'scraps of paper,' and that 'necessity knows no law.'

"At the present moment these sham offers on the part of Germany rest on the 'war map' of Europe alone, which represented nothing more than a superficial and passing phase of the situation and not the real strength of the belligerents. A peace concluded upon these terms would be only to the advantage of the aggressors, who, after imagining that they would reach their goal in two months, discovered after two years that they could never attain it.

"As for the future, the disasters caused by the German declaration of war and the innumerable outrages committed by Germany and her allies against both belligerents and neutrals, demand penalties, reparation and guarantees. Germany avoids mention of any of these.

"In reality these overtures made by the central Powers are nothing more than a calculated attempt to influence the future course of war and to end it by imposing a German peace. The object of these overtures is to create dissension in the public opinion in the allied countries. But that public opinion has, in spite of all the sacrifices endured by the allies, already given its answer with admirable firmness and has denounced the empty pretense of the declaration of the enemy Powers.

"Have Object of Stiffening Opinion." "They have the further object of stiffening public opinion in Germany and in the countries allied to her and all severely tried by their losses, worn out by the economic pressure and crushed by the supreme effort which has been imposed upon their inhabitants.

"They endeavor to deceive and intimidate public opinion in neutral countries, whose inhabitants have long since made up their minds where the initial responsibility lies and are far too enlightened to favor the designs of Germany by abandoning the defense of human freedom.

"Finally, these overtures attempt to justify in advance in the eyes of the world a new series of crimes—submarine warfare, deportations, forced labor and forced enlistment of the inhabitants against their own countries and violations of neutrality.

"Fully conscious of the gravity of this moment, but equally conscious of its requirements, the allied Governments, closely united to one another, refuse to consider any proposal

which is empty and insincere.

"Once again the allies declare that no peace is possible so long as they have not secured reparation for violated rights and liberties, the recognition of the principle of nationalities and of the free existence of small states; so long as they have not brought about a settlement calculated to end once and for all forces which have constituted a perpetual menace to the nations and afford the only effective guarantee for the future security of the world.

"In conclusion the allied Powers think it necessary to put forward the following considerations, which show the special situation of Belgium after two and a half years of war. In virtue of the international treaties signed by five great European Powers, of whom Germany was one, Belgium enjoyed before the war a special status, rendering her territory inviolable and placing her, under the guarantee of the Powers, outside all European conflicts. She was, however, in spite of these treaties, the first to suffer the aggression of Germany. For this reason the Belgium Government think it necessary to define the aims which Belgium has never ceased to pursue while fighting side by side with the entente Powers for right and justice.

"Belgium Reduced to Slavery." "Belgium has always scrupulously fulfilled the duties which her neutrality imposed upon her. She has taken up arms to defend her independence and her neutrality violated by Germany and to show that she remains faithful to her international obligations.

"On the fourth of August, 1914, in the Reichstag the German Chancellor admitted that this aggression constituted an injustice contrary to the laws of nations and pledged himself in the name of Germany to repair it. During two and a half years this injustice has been cruelly aggravated by the proceedings of the occupying forces, which have exhausted the resources of the country, ruined its industries, devastated its towns and villages and have been responsible for innumerable massacres, executions and imprisonments.

"At this very moment, while Germany is proclaiming peace and humanity to the world, she is deporting Belgian citizens by thousands and reducing them to slavery.

"Belgium before the war asked for nothing but to live in harmony with her neighbors. Her King and her Government have but one aim—the re-establishment of peace and justice. But they only desire peace which would assure to their country legitimate reparation, guarantees and safeguards for the future."

Spectator Outlines Entente's Peace Terms.

It will be observed that the entente Allies do not specifically outline the definite war aims of any of the Entente Governments except as to Belgium, as suggested by President Wilson's note, nor did Germany in her reply to the President's note, but the London Spectator of the date of the Entente Allies' reply devoted a greater part of its issue to what it declares are the only peace terms that will be acceptable, which doubtless voice public sentiment of all the Entente Powers, and show how remote is any prospect of peace. Briefly summarized the principal demands as outlined by the Spectator are:

"The peace terms are to start from the status quo before the war, thus including the evacuation of the whole of Northern France, Belgium and Luxembourg, and all lands taken from Serbia, Rumania, Russia and Montenegro.

"Alsace-Lorraine is to be restored to France. The Danish portion of Schleswig-Holstein is to go to Denmark and Posen, Polish Prussia, and Austrian Poland are to be added to the new subkingdom of Poland which the Czar has pledged to create.

"The Slavs of Herzegovina, Dalmatia, Croatia are to be created into a new kingdom.

"Bohemia is to be an independent State.

"The Rumanian section of Transylvania is to be added to Rumania.

"The whole Austrian Tyrol plus Trieste, Istria and the other portions of Austria which are Italian in blood or feeling, to be added to Italy.

"Turkey to yield Constantinople and the Straits to Russia.

"The Armenians to be put under Russian tutelage.

"The Arabs to be freed, while Syria, Asia Minor and Mesopotamia are to be under external protection guaranteeing tranquility.

"The German colonies to remain in the hands of the Entente. Moreover, money indemnity for the ruin Germany has done in Belgium, France, Serbia and Montenegro.

"As regards shipping, Germany to make reparation in kind for all ships of commerce destroyed ton for ton, neutral shipping to be replaced only after all the demands of the Allies have been satisfied.

"The German navy to be handed over and distributed among the entente nations.

"As a guarantee against future war the allies are to insist upon the democratization of the German Government.

"The Kiel Canal to be neutralized under an international non-German commission, including the Entente countries, the United States and other neutrals."

VIGOROUS PROTEST AGAINST GERMANY'S U-BOATS BY SPAIN

A Madrid Spain cable of December 29, says that in a note to Berlin reviewing the loss of several ships, Spain vigorously protests against Germany's submarine methods. It says:

"The note addressed to Germany on the submarine question by the Spanish Government reviews at length the policy of Madrid from the time the first Spanish ship, the Isidoro, was torpedoed, in August, 1915. It declares that the Spanish Government has always maintained that it was illegal to destroy prizes as is the constant practice of submarines and that the Cabinet also demanded the observation of the Declaration of London, notably article 50, which it maintained submarines violate by abandoning the crews of sunken ships to the mercy of the waves far from land.

The note further recalls the vigor of the representations of the Spanish Government, which, it says, sometimes caused the Berlin Government to be surprised at the radical attitude of Spain, whose protests, it is held, have been more energetic than those of any neutral state, even the United States of America. With regard to the contraband question, the note says:

"What the Spanish Government does not admit is the central empire's interpretation of international law whereby they destroy ships of nations which have always complained and protested against such an interpretation.

The note concludes with an announcement that further steps are being taken to avoid or diminish in future the risks to Spanish shipping.

In September of this year the Spanish Government sent a note to Berlin protesting vigorously against the torpedoing of Spanish steamers by German submarines. Prior to that time dispatches from Spain stated that indignation over the operations of the submarines was growing throughout the country and that mercantile and shipping bodies were bringing strong pressure on the Government for action.

In October a Berlin dispatch said that the German Government had offered to let Spanish fruit ships sail unmolested under certain guarantees and provided that the allies permitted similar cargoes to pass for the German market. The agitation in Spain continued to grow and on Dec. 12, Alexandro Lerroux, leader of the Spanish Radical party, introduced a bill in the Chamber of Deputies prohibiting Spanish subjects and vessels from provisioning German submarines. This was followed on December 22 by the introduction of a resolution by the Republican party declaring that there was urgent need of putting a stop to the torpedoing of Spanish ships which was "continuing to weaken a merchant marine already insufficient and threatening to ruin the agricultural interests of Spain."

CAME NATURAL

A Times reporter was somewhat surprised the other day, as well as amused, on hearing a friend who was not suspected of poetic talent, thus break forth in the following song, which he recited:

Some people were made for soldiers;
The Irish were made for cops;
Limbarger was made for the Germans,
Spaghetti was made for the Wops.
Fish were made to drink water,
Bums were made to drink booze,
Banks were made to hold money,
Money was made for the Jews.
Everybody there is wants something,
But who in the H— wants Hughes?

COUNT 'EM—9,116,296—

Mr. Wilson's popular plurality of 2,173,512 obtained under the exceptional conditions existing in 1912 compares favorably with other huge pluralities also obtained under exceptional conditions since the opening of the present century. Mr. Taft's plurality in 1908 was 1,269,804 and Mr. Roosevelt's in 1904 2,545,515.

Prior to 1900, when Mr. McKinley obtained 849,790, the largest popular plurality in history was that given General Grant, 762,991, in 1872. Buchanan was given 496,905 in 1856, Lincoln 491,195 the first time and 407,342 the second time and Grant 305,456 in 1868. Tilden received 250,935 in 1876, and Garfield 7018 in 1880. Cleveland received 62,683 in 1884, 98,017 in 1888, though defeated by 65 electoral votes, and 380,810 in 1892.

That 9,116,296 voters supported Mr. Wilson this year is immensely significant. It means that that many voters are lined up on the side of progressive, intelligent politics; that no party can hope to win in the future on a platform of reaction, evasion, tariff graft, machine rule. After some wavering, some uncertainty as to where the truth lay, the sentiment of the country has definitely committed itself to the ideals and aspirations that took shape within the past few years' reform campaigning.

The chief political interest of the hour attaches to efforts for reorganizing the Republican party to enable it to fulfill at least the useful function of a party of the opposition. Eight continuous years of honesty, sincerity and forward looking aims in the office of supreme power will end in visible government and break up and permanently destroy the old unscrupulous reactionary Republican junta. St. Louis Post Dispatch.

The Habit of Taking Cold. With many people taking cold is a habit, but fortunately one that easily broken. Take a cold sponge bath every morning when you first get out of bed—not ice cold, but a temperature of about 90 degrees F. Also sleep with your window up. Do this and you will seldom take a cold. When you do take a cold take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and get rid of it as quickly as possible. Obtainable everywhere. (adv.)

The Waco bank president sentenced to prison for 99 years will find the way of the transgressor long as well.

Solution is Pressing

Editor Times:—Until within the last generation the problem confronting the United States as an industrial nation, was how to increase the public wealth. Now, the question is how to distribute the vast riches which have accumulated, very largely as a result of the efforts put forth by workingmen. In this evolution, society has reached a stage where, in return for his day's toil, it is possible to give the workingman a wage upon which he may live with reasonable comfort and decency, and with which he may obtain the necessities and some of the pleasures of life, which in the past, society was too poor to provide for him. The enormous increase in the productivity of labor of all sorts, due to the invention of machines and to the increased intelligence of the workers, has now made possible a condition which should permit the wage earner to enjoy a small, but fairly comfortable home, and to secure an abundance of wholesome and nourishing food. The standard of living of the year 1916 is a different, a better and a higher standard than that which obtained half a century ago; the workingman is a better workman, more intelligent, more industrious and more efficient than his forefathers of fifty years ago. Moreover the productivity of the workman of the present day is, by reason of better organization and the use of machinery, enormously in excess of the productivity of the workman of half century ago. In every department of activity men have become increasingly able to perform more work and to obtain greater output. While the standard of living has risen, it has not by any means kept pace with the increased productivity of labor. The larger product which society now obtains from industry is more than sufficient to enable the workingman of the present time to maintain a higher standard of living if he were but getting a just proportion of the products of his labor. The workmen of the Lead Belt have been receiving fairly good wages for the past two or three years, but they are receiving far less than they should receive when we consider the price of lead which, at the present time is eight dollars per hundred, but as we understand it, the employees of the mining corporations receive about the same wage at present that they have been getting for several years, but with their regular wage check they also receive what they call a bonus check, thus receiving two checks for the same time and the same work. Now, with lead selling at \$8.00, would it not look much better for the companies to raise the wages of their employees instead of sticking "bonus" checks in their faces every two weeks. When we set out to find the cause for the companies paying with two checks when one would do just as well, our mind wanders back to a statute in this State that was enacted a good many years ago. Sec. 3022, Revised Statutes of Mo., reads as follows:

"And railway, mining, express, elegraph, manufacturing or other company or corporation doing business in this State and desiring to reduce the wages of its employees or any of them, shall give to the employees to be affected thereby thirty days' notice thereof." There you are. There we have the whole thing in a nutshell. Under the "bonus" system the "bonus" may be cut off without notice or warning but if the companies should raise the wages of their employees to equal the bonus, then the little statute I have quoted would step in and say to them, don't you reduce the wages of those men without first giving them thirty days' notice. Taking into consideration this statute, it is very plain to any one why the companies will go to the great trouble and expense of issuing "bonus" checks. We hope the companies will in the very near future do away with the "bonus" check, raise the wages of their employees in proportion to the price of lead and thereby show to the world that they have some confidence in their country and mankind and a due regard for the principles of humanity.

WORKER.

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People report incredible results from simple lavoptik eye wash. A girl suffering from weak, strained eyes was helped by one application. Her mother could hardly read or sew because of eye pains. After one week her trouble was gone. A small bottle of lavoptik is guaranteed to help EVERY CASE of weak, strained or inflamed eyes. ONE WASH will startle with its incredible results. Pure aluminum eye cup FREE with each bottle. W. E. Aubuchon, druggist, Franklany, Mo. (adv.)

WOODROW WILSON'S EPITAPH

Woodrow Wilson, Born in Virginia, December 28, 1856. Buried in New York November 7th, 1916. Arose from the dead in California, November 9, 1916. and Made every Republican in the United States Crawl Thru an Auger Hole November 10, 1916. —Exchange.

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